

Claims

1. A method for handling cassettes (9, 9') for bank notes, for automatic tellers (10) and/or deposit devices, characterized by the steps of determining the filling level of the cassette (9, 9') or cassettes (9, 9'), comparing the determined filling level of each cassette (9, 9') with at least one threshold value lower than a maximum capacity of the particular cassette (9, 9'), producing a signal indicating the exceeding of the threshold value if the comparison yields an excess, and causing a replacement of the cassette (9, 9') for which the signal indicating the exceeding of the threshold value was produced.
2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the threshold value is variable.
3. The method according to claim 2, characterized in that the threshold value is specified in dependence on time of day and/or weekday.
4. The method according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the threshold value is specified in dependence on the time duration required for replacing the cassette (9, 9').
5. The method according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the threshold value corresponds to a number of bank notes contained in the cassette (9, 9') which is lower than the maximum capacity of the cassette (9, 9') specified by a maximum permissible number of bank notes.
6. The method according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the threshold value corresponds to a total value of bank notes contained in the cassette (9, 9') which is lower than the maximum capacity of the cassette (9, 9') specified by a maximum permissible total value, in particular an insurance value.

7. The method according to claim 6, characterized in that the threshold value corresponds to a total value of the bank notes present in all cassettes (9, 9') of an automatic teller (10).
8. The method according to any of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that information about the bank notes (BA) contained in the cassette (9, 9') is stored as cassette data, in a special, non-evaluable data format, in a nonvolatile memory (8, 8') associated with the cassette (9, 9').
9. The method according to claim 8, characterized in that the cassette data contain information about number, denomination, currency, total value, time of deposit at the automatic teller (10) and identity of the depositor.
10. The method according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that master data for the cassette (9, 9') are produced in the automatic teller (10) and transmitted to a service center independently of the cassette (9, 9'), and the master data are suitable for evaluating the information contained in the cassette data.
11. The method according to claim 10, characterized in that the information contained in the cassette data is used for checking the bank notes (BA) contained in the cassette (9, 9').
12. An automatic teller (10) and/or deposit device, characterized in that the automatic teller (10) and/or deposit device is operated by a method according to any of claims 1 to 11.
13. A cassette (9, 9') for bank notes, characterized in that the cassette (9, 9') is operated with an automatic teller (10) and/or deposit device according to claim 12.